

ARMY AND NAVY CHRONICLE.

Edited and published by B. Homans, at \$5 a year, payable in advance.

VOL. IV.—No. 4.] WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 1837. [WHOLE No. 108.

EXPLORING EXPEDITION.

From the Globe of January 21.

SOUTH SEA EXPLORING EXPEDITION.

Messrs. BLAIR AND RIVES: In your *Globe* of the 16th instant, there appears an address from Commodore Thomas Ap Gagesby Jones to the public, with a correspondence between that officer and myself, respecting the appointment of the commanding officers of the South Sea Surveying and Exploring Expedition, which demands a reply on my part.

Commodore Jones complains of the publication by Lieut. Slidell, in the *Army and Navy Chronicle* of the first day of the last month, of two letters, containing his objections to the appointment of that officer as the commander of one of the smaller vessels of the exploring expedition; copies of which letters, by the permission of Commodore Jones, had been given to Lieut. Slidell. But he supposes that other letters upon this subject were communicated to Lieut. Slidell, which had been withheld; and, of the two published, he says: "Neither of these present the final position assumed by me in my correspondence with the Secretary. They only show the grounds taken by me in urging my objections upon him. They show nothing of the concessions made by me; the total surrender of my personal wishes to those of the Secretary," &c.

Lieutenant Slidell published all the letters, copies of which were sent to him, without mutilation or alteration. He cannot, therefore, be fairly charged with withholding letters he never possessed, nor of garbling those he published; and a plain statement of facts will show that I communicated to Lieutenant Slidell, in the copies of the two letters already mentioned, all that he called for, being those containing allegations against him, and upon which he had been excluded from all command in the exploring expedition.

From the moment this expedition was authorized by Congress, I considered that, as its dangers, fatigues, and hardships, were to be borne by the officers of the navy, they ought to participate largely in its advantages and honors; and that in all cases in which, from their literature and science, they were competent to the task of promoting the great objects of the expedition, they were to be preferred to citizens equally competent, but not subject to like responsibilities. And especially I considered that a narrative of the voyage of the expedition should be written by one of our naval officers, if we have one equal to the task, who, on professional grounds, might be considered, especially by the officers of the navy, as more appropriately to be assigned to this duty than any private citizen could be, not having higher literary pretensions. In fact, I considered it all important to the success of the expedition, that it should be popular with the officers of the navy, which it could not be if their rights and fair claims were not duly respected in arranging the details of the duties, advantages, and honors of the same.

From my knowledge of Lieut. Slidell, I believed him every way competent to the command of one of the smaller vessels of the squadron, and I knew him to be eminently qualified to write a narrative of the voyage. I did not suppose that he would be

able to write this narrative while performing the voyage; but that he would make such memorandums, and collect such information on the same, as he might do without interfering with his professional duties, and as would enable him to complete his task in a satisfactory manner on his return to the U. States.

I wished, also, to appoint Lieut. Wilkes to the command of one of the smaller vessels, in order to secure his services, which, from his scientific attainments, were considered as important to the expedition.

To the appointment of those officers, especially that of Lieut. Slidell, Com. Jones objected, which circumstance led to the correspondence published in the *Globe*.

Immediately after his return from New York, in August last, in a conversation with me, he expressed his objections to these appointments, and on grounds to which I did not think proper to yield, as I did not deem them well founded; and in his letter of the 22d of that month, marked No. 4, in the printed correspondence, he stated those objections in a more formal manner than he had done before.

My rule, in making a detail of officers for this expedition, was to appoint none against whom Com. Jones might have well-founded objections, and this was in accordance with the views of the President; and Com. Jones is mistaken if, in his conversations with the President or myself, he considered that more than this was conceded to him. Indeed, to have conceded more, was to have surrendered my right of appointing the officers.

I considered the objections stated in this letter as not well founded; and the allegation that no captain called to the command that had been assigned to him, would, if left untrammelled in his selection, ever have thought of either of those officers as commanders, I considered as unjust to the professional character and standing of those officers; and that his objections to the employment of Lieut. Slidell in any capacity on the expedition, must arise from some consideration not immediately connected with the circumstance of his being a junior officer.

My answer to this letter was of the 31st of August, and is marked No. 5 in the printed correspondence.

This drew from Commodore Jones his letter of the 2d of September, No. 6 of the printed correspondence, in which he goes more into detail in his objections to these officers. He objects to both of them as junior officers, and to Lieut. Slidell he objects as historian of the expedition, for reasons which he seems to consider as conclusive, but in which I could see but little force. And I am confident that the officers of the navy, as well as the public, will approve of my decision in favor of Lieut. Slidell.

I knew that a gentleman, not belonging to the navy, who had exerted much influence in bringing this subject to the favorable consideration of Congress, had been recommended as historiographer of the expedition, and that Commodore Jones placed in him the most implicit confidence. To this circumstance I could not but impute some portion of his decided opposition of Lieut. Slidell as the historian of the voyage.

Commodore Jones, in his address to the public, says that the appointment of Lieut. Slidell to the

command of one of the smaller vessels, must necessarily have excluded all the 107 lieutenants who are his seniors in rank, from all lot or part in this expedition. This is a very grave charge, and formidable in appearance; but in appearance only. The appointment of Lieut. Slidell could not have excluded from all lot or part in this expedition, any lieutenants, except such as might be employed on such expedition; and but a very small part of these 107 lieutenants could be so employed. Lieut. Crowninshield has been selected by Commodore Jones for the command of the schooner Pilot, one of the vessels of the squadron. His commission is of the same date as that of Lieut. Slidell, to wit: the 13th of January, 1825; and he stands on the Register no more than twenty above Lieut. Slidell; so that the appointment of Lieut. Slidell could exclude no more than those twenty from all lot and part in the expedition. Further: Commodore Jones selected Lieut. Alexander B. Pinkham for the command of one of the smaller vessels. A better selection could not be made; and he is only three above Lieut. Slidell. So that, by this selection, Commodore Jones would, according to this logic, have excluded all but three of this 107 lieutenants from all lot and part in the expedition; and as these three, it is believed, neither ask nor wish for these appointments, no injustice would have been done to them by the appointment of Lieut. Slidell. Lieut. Pinkham declined the appointment. Then, I would ask, how Commodore Jones could object to Lieut. Slidell, on the ground of his being a junior officer, when no such objection was thought of as it respected Lieut. Pinkham? Commodore Jones's letter of the 2d of September I answered by mine of the 12th of that month, marked 7 in the printed correspondence, in which I endeavored to obviate his objections, and concluded with saying that I would not appoint either Lieuts. Slidell or Wilkes, until I should know the will of the President upon the subject.

The President, on his return to Washington, approved of the appointment of Lieuts. Slidell and Wilkes, as soon as it should be necessary to detail the officers for the squadron. I waited, with a hope that Commodore Jones would waive his objections to these officers, until the 7th of November, when all the ships for the expedition were launched and the officers to command them appointed, except two; and convinced that any further efforts on my part to remove the objections to these officers, particularly to Lieut. Slidell, would be hopeless; and, in fact, considering that it would be an act of injustice to themselves to appoint them under such circumstances; and, also, fearing that further delay in making the appointments might be considered as retarding the preparations for the expedition, thereby interfering with the will of Congress, and disappointing public expectation, I relinquished my undoubted right to appoint those officers, as I had intended to do; and, by my letter of that date, I informed Commodore Jones of my decision, and that neither of those officers would be appointed to a command on the expedition.

This narrative, taken in connexion with the correspondence as published by Commodore Jones, affords a succinct history of the circumstances which led to the exclusion of Lieuts. Slidell and Wilkes from commands on this expedition. Lieut. Slidell felt deeply wounded by this decision; and as it was known to his brother officers that he had been selected for the command of one of the smaller vessels, his exclusion was calculated to injure his professional character and standing in the navy, unless he could give some satisfactory explanation of the decision that had been given against him. He re-

quested that he might have copies of the letters of Commodore Jones containing allegations against him, to which Commodore Jones, on being consulted, immediately assented. Copies of the letters of the 22d of August, marked 4, and of the 2d of September, marked 6, in the printed correspondence in the Globe of the 16th instant, with my answers, were sent, and no others. These contained, as I considered, all the allegations against Lieut. Slidell; all that was asked for, and all that was necessary, to a fair understanding of the circumstances that led to the selection of Lieut. Slidell, in the first place, as the commander of one of the smaller vessels of the expedition, and his final exclusion from the same.

No copy of the letter of the 14th of September, upon the same subject, and marked 8 in the printed correspondence, was communicated to Lieutenant Slidell; and it will be found, on examination, to contain no allegation or explanation not contained in the letters Nos. 4 and 6, necessary to a correct understanding of the circumstances which led to the decision against Lieut. Slidell.

As to the letter of the 7th of November, No. 10 of the printed correspondence, to which Commodore Jones attaches much importance, it did not occur to me that it came within the scope or meaning of the request of Lieutenant Slidell to have copies of the letters containing allegations against him, or as being one of those to the communication of which Commodore Jones assented. The least intimation from him that a copy of this letter should also be sent, would have been acceded to: but it must be observed that this letter could not have had the slightest effect in the decision made against Lieutenant Slidell, as it was not sent to me until Commodore Jones had been informed that this question was settled, and that Lieutenant Slidell was excluded from any command in the expedition. This appears by a postscript to the letter, in which Commodore Jones says, "Nevertheless, I respectfully desire that the foregoing letter may be received as a manifestation of my sincere desire to meet the views of the honorable Secretary of the Navy, in all measures connected with the exploring expedition." In that light, and in that only, was it received; and I must say it removed from my mind some extremely unpleasant impressions, created by a line of conduct towards me, on the part of Commodore Jones, which I had experienced from no other officer of the navy. But if he considers his consent contained in this letter, that Lieutenant Slidell should go out in this expedition in the subordinate capacity he proposes, and for the reasons he assigns, as a *concession* made to me, or any favor granted to Lieutenant Slidell, I must say that I differ from him entirely in opinion; and that I would not wound the feelings of that officer by making him an offer of service on such terms; and, under that impression, I cannot see the necessity, or even propriety, of sending a copy of this letter to Lieutenant Slidell. I am glad, however, it is published, as it affords a candid and friendly explanation of the relations between Commodore Jones and myself, which, for his sake as well as mine, it is proper should be known.

Had Lieutenant Slidell published no more than the letters sent to him, together with a statement of his own services, as a justification of himself before the public and his brother officers, Commodore Jones would have had no cause of complaint. But Lieutenant Slidell, not satisfied with this, makes, by way of retaliation, an attack upon the professional services of Commodore Jones, for which charges the letters communicated do not afford the slightest basis. For

these Lieutenant Slidell alone is answerable,* and so no doubt considers himself. I regret that, whatever might be the provocation, these charges were made. The professional reputation of our naval officers is the property of the nation, which I am anxious to see preserved, whether it be that of a junior or senior officer; whether that of a lieutenant or a post captain. I am as ready to defend the professional character of Commodore Jones as that of Lieutenant Slidell.

Commodore Jones has performed important services for the country, which ought not to be forgotten. He has taken occasion, and I think a very fair one, to state a portion of his services in his address to the public, and in which I think he claims nothing that is not justly due to his merits. I named him to the President as the officer to whom the command of this expedition should be given. This I did because I believed him every way competent to the task, and because, from the routine of service, I thought he had a fair claim to the command. The President had entire confidence in him, and directed that the offer of the command should be made to him, which was done; and I must do him the justice to say, that since his selection for this command, he has exerted himself with great diligence and energy in superintending the building and equipping the vessels of the squadron for sea, and in performing every duty on his part in promoting the views of Congress, and the expectations of the public, in fitting out the expedition. Much has been done; and that we still want a considerable number of seamen is not the fault of Commodore Jones, but is owing to circumstances not under his control. The peculiar situation of the naval service for the last ten months will afford a satisfactory explanation of the delay that has taken place in fitting out this expedition. Having a large force on the West India station, the exposed situation of our commerce required that considerable additions should be made to that force. It was necessary to relieve the Pacific, as well as Brazilian squadron; for all which more seamen have been required than could be recruited, while an unusually large number were wanted for the merchant service. These objects it is hoped will be accomplished in a few weeks. The North Carolina has completed her crew, and sailed for the Pacific station. The Independence for the Brazilian station has recruited the greater part of her crew; and the recruiting for the exploring expedition may soon be prosecuted with much better prospect of success than heretofore. The arrival of the Brandywine, the Potomac, or the Peacock, with the Enterprise, now all on their return to the United States, would at once afford the opportunity of recruiting seamen enough for the crews of all the vessels of the expedition.

At present there is a partial suspension of the preparations for fitting out the scientific corps of the expedition, until the return of Lieut. Wilkes, who left the United States on the 8th of August last for Europe, for the purpose of purchasing instruments, books, maps, charts, &c. for the expedition. His return was expected more than a month ago.

Although I differ essentially from Commodore Jones as to the extent of force necessary for the successful prosecution and termination of this surveying and exploring expedition, yet I have given all orders that I considered necessary for fitting it out upon the

*In my letter marked B, as published in the Globe, this expression occurs: "If Lieutenant Slidell has been unjust to you in his comments, he is *censurable* for that." The word I used was *answerable*. The mistake no doubt was made in taking a copy of the letter, and is of no importance.

extensive scale adopted; and shall continue to do so, if Congress make appropriations agreeably to the estimates furnished for this object.

In the avowals which I have now made, I have endeavored to do justice to Commodore Jones; and they have been made the more freely, as, from his letter of the 7th of November last, he evinces a wish that a mutual confidence between us should be restored, and which is necessary to a harmonious action in promoting measures necessary for the successful termination of this expedition.

I write under a pressure of official duties, and may have omitted some points which should be noticed in this communication.

MAHLON DICKERSON.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19, 1837.

DINNER TO GEN. CLINCH.

At a meeting of the citizens of St. Augustine, on the 26th instant, assembled to consider of the propriety of giving a public dinner to General CLINCH, John Drysdale, Esq., was called to the chair, and George Center, Esq., was appointed secretary.

It was resolved, that a committee of five gentlemen be appointed to address General Clinch, by letter or otherwise, and to tender to him, on the part of the citizens, the honors of a public dinner, and, in case of his acceptance, to make all arrangements necessary to carry the same into effect. The following gentlemen were appointed to compose the committee, viz:

Judge Joseph L. Smith, D. S. Griswold, Esq., Colonel Joseph S. Sanchez, General J. M. Hernandez, Captain Douglass Dummett.

The committee immediately addressed the following letter to General Clinch:

ST. AUGUSTINE, Nov. 26, 1836.

SIR: At a meeting last evening of the citizens of St. Augustine, the undersigned were appointed a committee to carry into effect the object of their meeting—to beg your acceptance of a public dinner, to be given to you on any day most convenient to yourself.

The committee are charged, among other duties, with the agreeable one of communicating with you on this subject; of signifying to you the high sense your fellow-citizens entertain of your character and worth as a private citizen, and alluding more emphatically to your distinguished services while in command of the United States force in the campaign against the Seminole Indians. They solicit a compliance on your part with their wishes,

And have the honor to be,

Sir, very respectfully,

Your most obed't. servants,

JOS. L. SMITH,

D. S. GRISWOLD,

J. M. HERNANDEZ,

JOS. S. SANCHEZ,

DOUGLASS DUMMETT,

Committee.

To Brig. Gen. CLINCH.

To which they were favored by the General with the following reply:

ST. AUGUSTINE, 26th Nov. 1836.

Gentlemen: I have just had the honor to receive your note of this date, informing me that you had been appointed by my fellow-citizens of St. Augustine, to tender to me a public dinner, to be given on any day most convenient to myself, and also to convey to me their confidence in my character as a private citizen, and their approbation of my military conduct, while commanding in Florida. Although I feel confident that the partiality of my fellow-citizens of St. Augustine has induced them greatly to

overrate my public services, still the approbation of a community, possessing so much intelligence and worth, who have had the best opportunities of judging of my public acts, is to me a source of the highest gratification; and it will give me great pleasure to meet them at the festive board on Monday next, the only day I can possibly spare from my private engagements. Be pleased, gentlemen, to accept my warmest acknowledgments for the kind and complimentary manner in which you have conveyed to me the wishes of my respected fellow-citizens of St. Augustine, and accept the assurances of my high respect and esteem.

Respectfully, I remain,

Your most obedient,

D. L. CLINCH.

To the Hon. Jos. L. SMITH,

Gen. JOS. M. HERNANDEZ,

D. S. GRISWOLD, Esq.,

Capt. D. DUMMETT,

Col. JOS. S. SANCHEZ,

} Com'tee.

On the day appointed, a very numerous and respectable company, including invited guests, the reverend Clergy, Colonel Crane, and the officers of the United States army at this post, with several of the officers of the Tennessee militia, sat down to an excellent dinner, provided for the occasion by Dr. Deforest, at the Florida House. The day and evening were distinguished by the utmost good order, cordial feeling, and enthusiasm.

Judge Smith presided, assisted by General Hernandez and D. S. Griswold, Esq., Vice Presidents.

After the cloth was removed, the following regular and volunteer toasts were drunk by the company, interspersed with songs and with music from a band stationed in an adjoining room. The whole affair, although sudden, was got up in exceeding good taste, and must have proved highly acceptable to our worthy and gallant guest.

The General was in good health and spirits, and bore himself modestly and gallantly through a well-contested field of festive enjoyment. The excitement connected with his name and every allusion to his military services, was truly exhilarating, and must have afforded to him that evidence of the approving and grateful sense of the people, so gratifying to a public servant.

REGULAR TOASTS.

1. *Our Common Country*--Like our common mother, first of the fairest of creation.
2. *The Constitution of the United States*--The darling compromise! Our first love, and our last hope.
3. *Our Revolutionary Heroes*--The progenitors of our national prosperity and fame: may their descendants never prove unworthy of the great trust committed to their charge, nor ungrateful recipients of the inheritance which their wisdom and value have bequeathed to them.
4. *The army of the United States*--Brave, capable, and faithful--justly entitled to the gratitude of the people, and the highest patronage of Government.
5. *The Navy*--It has illuminated, by its achievements, the deep ocean and the shallow lake, the woods as well as the waves discourse of its glory, and accord in the note of victory.
6. *The President of the United States*--The heads of Departments, and "all the powers that be." It is a becoming duty to respect them as the constituted authorities of the land, our affections may be reserved for an introduction; when we know who they are, we shall judge of the propriety of cultivating the acquaintance.
7. *General Duncan L. Clinch*--Our worthy fellow-citizen, and respected guest, a good soldier, a

good planter, and a good fellow: may he never lose a crop, a battle, or a friend.

This toast, received with universal approbation and loud cheering, was replied to by the General as follows:

Gentlemen: I rise with much diffidence, but with great good feeling, and gratitude for the compliment conveyed in the sentiment just expressed. Conscious of my defects as a public speaker, I will not obtrude long on your patience. Identified both in feeling and interest with my fellow-citizens of Florida, I have felt, and felt deeply for their losses, privations, and sufferings; but great and serious as they have been, as growing out of the savage and incendiary war of the Seminoles, I feel conscious, while commanding in Florida, of having used every effort in my power, with the limited means placed within my control by the Department of War, to give protection to their lives and property. It was my fixed determination, when the command in Florida was (unsolicited on my part,) conferred on me, to remain in the service, until our Indian difficulties were brought to a close; and lost no time in informing the Department of War of the true state of the country, and in pointing out the means best calculated for its defence and protection; but, at a time when I least expected it, and on the eve of extending my plan of operations, the head of that Department thought proper, for reasons best known to himself, to supersede me in the command, by an officer of high rank, and still higher reputation. (*Cries of no, no.*) Still I would not retire from the field, so long as I thought I could be of service to my country; nor could I separate myself from the gallant regulars, who had served so long with me, nor from the high-minded and gallant volunteers, who at all times so cheerfully placed themselves under my command. But the campaign was brought to a close, and I determined to retire to the walks of private life. 'Tis true, that the President of the United States, feeling conscious that injustice had been done me, with his usual magnanimity, urged me to resume the command of the army of Florida, but it was then too late; my plans of operations had been changed, the troops sick and depressed, and the resource of Florida exhausted, and under all these disadvantages, it was expected that I should open a summer campaign. Gentlemen, you are all too well acquainted with the incidents of the present war, to require any further remarks from me; but I will assert, and that without the fear of contradiction, that whenever our troops, either regulars or volunteers, have met the enemy, with any thing like half their numbers, they have been successful, and have sustained the honor and high character of their country. I will propose as a toast,

Florida--May the cloud that now overshadows her prosperity, soon pass away, and may ample justice be measured out to her suffering citizens, by the representatives of a great and magnanimous nation.

8. *Florida, our own little Empire*--Consecrated at home, though rifled as a country, bound to her by the separate ties of birth or adoption, let us offer her one heart and one front in her hour of present peril.

9. The Governor of Florida.

10. Our Delegate in Congress.

11. The Judiciary.

12. *Our losses in the Seminole War*--The laws of nations and the holiest principles of justice demand their repayment from the overflowing treasury of the United States, whose agents, without fault of ours, by their mismanagement, brought the war upon us.

13. *The Fair*--First and foremost in our affections, though last upon the list of sentiment, holding

both places by prescriptive right, and shining in either, with all the point and beauty of the epigram.

VOLUNTEER TOASTS.

By Judge Smith, *President*:

The Surplus Revenue—Let it not be distributed gratuitously to the States, till *compensation*, alike due by treaty stipulation and national faith, has been made to the people of Florida, for the losses and injuries of 1812 and 1835.

By General Hernandez, *1st Vice President*:

The Seminole War—May it be a warning to the Government, and, like individuals, let them learn, that a "stitch in time saves nine."

By Daniel S. Griswold, Esq., *2d Vice President*:

Oceola—The great untaken, and still unconquered red man, would that his aspirations were less unholy than they are—battling for his hunting ground, his kindred, and his log cabin, how know we that humanity is not blessing his cause, when the Great Spirit is giving him victory?

By Lot Clark, Esq.:

Florida—The home of the afflicted; a foe has desolated her fairest fields, and moistened her soil with the blood of the brave, but a genial sun still gilds her valleys, and a mellow, health-restoring breeze still floats over the waves of barbarous war; may the remunerations of a generous protecting Government soon restore her rich harvests and golden fruits.

By Mr. Clapp, of New York:

Florida—Still beautiful, though ravaged by a savage foe; her smoking ruins and butchered children furnish a sad commentary on the sympathy exhausted on the "poor Indian."

By A. M. Reed, Esq.—The land of flowers: Destined by Heaven for the enjoyment of peace and happiness; may the war whoop soon cease to ring in her forest, and the desolated habitations of her citizens rise Phoenix-like from their ashes.

By Colonel J. S. Sanchez.—Colonel B.K. Pierce, U. S. Army: May the God of battles conduct him through the present campaign, and return him safe to the circle of his friends, covered with laurels.

By a citizen.—General Clinch: May he be the next Governor of Florida. (Drank with continued acclamations and unbounded applause.)

By A. W. Watson.—General Clinch: As a General, "we ne'er shall look upon his like again."

By Adjutant Philips.—General Clinch: Like an empty bottle, has done his duty, and able to do it again.

By Colonel Crane, U. S. Army.—The volunteers of East Florida: They have always done their duty, when called upon to defend the country.

By Major J. M. Fontaine.—The officers who distinguished themselves under General Clinch at the battle of the Withlacoochee.

By Major William McKay.—The health of all brave officers who served in the last campaigns, with those now in the field: May they return, crowned with laurels of victory, in safety to their homes and sweethearts.

By Captain Drane, U. S. Army.—The East Florida militia of 1835: first in the field; brave in battle; patient under hardships and fatigues; but always ready when called for.

By Dr. Russel, U. S. Army.—The Live Oak, the pride of Florida's forest. May it never shade any but freemen, nor bear a cannon subversive of liberty.

By Mr. George Center.—Those officers of the army whose gallant deeds have deserved, but not received a just reward.

By Captain Webster, U. S. Army.—The city of St. Augustine: May the present hour be to her the commencement of a new era—the day dawn of her prosperity.

By Dr. Wharton, U. S. Army.—Dade county: a memorial of the gratitude of Floridians, and a lasting monument to the noble commander and his gallant band who died in their defence.

By Mr. Theodore Flotard.—General D. L. Clinch, with a thousand as brave fellows as those under his command when he received the Indian bullet through his cap, he would have saved the Government the trouble of a court of inquiry on the failure of the Florida campaign.

By Lieutenant Kennedy, U. S. Army.—The brave dead: Whether lost in battle strife, or by fell disease, ever be cherished by a grateful people.

By Major William Travers.—Our distinguished guest, General Clinch: May every success attend him in all his undertakings.

By Captain William Lexington.—General Clinch, late of the U. S. Army: A lion in the field of battle, a lamb in private life.

By an officer of the army.—Tennessee: May her gallant sons ever emulate the noble deeds of their fathers.

By John Rodman, Esq.—General Jesup. With him at the head of our army, in the war with the Indians, may we soon get rid of all dilatory proceedings.

By Major Robins.—The memory of Major Dade and his brave and patriotic associates: Time cannot obliterate the gratitude of a gallant nation.

By Colonel H. D. Baldwin, Quartermaster General of Florida, an invited guest, who, from ill health, was unable to attend.—The citizen soldiers of St. Augustine: Their zeal in evincing honor to their country's defender is only equalled by their wish to serve their country themselves; may the speedy termination of the war enable them soon to resume their more peaceful avocations.

By Mr. Tucker.—The army in the field: May victory crown its untiring exertions in the cause of Florida.

By Mr. James M. Gould.—The memory of those who have fallen in the present disastrous war.

By a Guest.—General Duncan L. Clinch, a *real Clincher*, as *Oceola* will ever recollect.

By a Citizen.—The cove of the Withlacoochee: Let it be well *Dran'd*; bridged over with nails well *Clinch'd*, and then our army may pass over.

MISCELLANY.

COMMERCE OF LAKE ERIE.—From a statement in the Buffalo Commercial Advertiser, it appears that the tonnage enrolled at the several districts on Lake Erie is as follows:

Ports.	Tons.
Buffalo, - - - -	8541.09
Detroit, - - - -	6703.73
Cleveland, - - - -	4518.33
Sandusky, - - - -	1792.85
Presque Isle, - - - -	1562.29
Miami, - - - -	927.67

Total, 24045.76

This total of tonnage includes 250 vessels, viz: 2 ships, 1 barque, 7 brigs, 45 steamboats, 146 schooners, 40 sloops, and 10 schooner scows.

Extract of a letter from an officer in the Navy to his friend in Gettysburg, dated

U. S. SHIP NATCHEZ,

Off Vera Cruz, Nov. 5, 1836.

This is one of the most unpleasant of our naval stations, more especially when the vessel cruises, as it is called, down the Gulf. We left Pensacola on

the 28th September, and soon made the mouth of the Mississippi, where we lay until the 12th October, expecting to convoy some vessels from New Orleans to Metamoras, Tampico, and this place. While at the Mississippi, we were boarded by an officer from the Texan schooner of war Independence, who was formerly a midshipman in our service, and from whom we had all the news in that quarter. We left the river on the 13th October, bound for Metamoras, but, owing to contrary winds, had to stand for Tampico. When off this place about forty miles, we boarded a small privateer schooner, under the Texan flag, which had captured a Mexican vessel a few days before, within gunshot of Tampico.

On the 25th ult. we anchored three miles south of Vera Cruz. The authorities, as well as the citizens generally, are very jealous of visitors from the United States, supposing them all to be favorably disposed towards Texas. After entering the city, I examined the walls, and forts, and batteries, which occasioned so much uneasiness that they doubly manned the lower fort, and put the gates on the walls, so as to prevent any further examination. One of our boats, manned with eight men and an officer, came in conflict with the soldiers and citizens on the mole or wharf. In the absence of the officer, the sailors, with boat-hooks and oars, (for they had no arms,) dispersed about thirty soldiers, and as many citizens. The soldiers, however, returned with a reinforcement, and wounded some of our sailors, and conducted them all to prison. Our men, as usual, behaved well. Our consul, Dr. Burrough, having ascertained the facts, speedily settled this unpleasant business.

The Mexicans are making desperate efforts to regain Texas. Three thousand five hundred soldiers left the city of Mexico on the 16th of last month, for Metamoras. A brig of war, which has just arrived from Baltimore, in connexion with their other vessels of war, are to sail very soon, to raise the blockade of Metamoras, and they are making forced loans from the people to sustain their efforts.—*Adams Sentinel*.

CAPTAIN T. AP C. JONES.—We recur always with pleasure to the past services and chivalrous deeds which so conspicuously marked the career of many of our deserving officers during the late war. What was familiar to every one in those days is now, after the lapse of more than twenty years, known, comparatively, to but few. This gallant band is rapidly passing off the stage of life—Decatur, Perry, McDonough, and other noble spirits who conquered or bled in their country's cause, have already been gathered to their fathers. The few who still remain on the theatre of useful action should be yet the more cherished. Such reminiscences as we find in the extract below, published in the Richmond Enquirer of the 19th, freshly revive in our minds the memory of times gone by, when the daily news of the events of the war was of the most thrilling interest.—*Nat. Intel*.

Extract of a letter from Washington, Jan. 6, 1837.

"The exploring and surveying expedition to the Pacific ocean and South seas, authorized by an act of Congress of the last session, will be interesting to the cause of literature, commerce, and science, throughout the world. You are aware that the President has selected to command this expedition Captatn Thomas Ap Catesby Jones, of the American navy. Jones was with General Jackson, as you will recollect, when a very young officer, at New Orleans in 1814, and acted a most distinguished part upon Lake Borgne, as commander of our gunboats upon that station. He kept the British squadron at

bay for two weeks upon that lake, with his five gunboats and 180 men, at a most important crisis, immediately preceding the landing of the British army on the 23d of December, 1814. He could not be approached by the British in their frigates, and they hesitated to attack him in open boats. The attack was, however, finally made, in boats manned by 1,200 men, whom Jones fought for two hours. With his 180 men he killed and wounded 400 of the British.

The boat he commanded was 50 minutes engaged in nearly close quarters, and maintained her colors until he was shot down himself, and nearly every man on board was either killed or wounded. He was put under the hatches when taken, where he was nearly suffocated with smoke, and afterwards suffered greatly with his wounds on board the enemy's squadron. Such is the man the President has selected, with a full knowledge of his character, to command this important expedition. You know Captain Jones and his whole race in Virginia. He is the nephew of Meriwether and Skelton Jones, formerly of Richmond, Virginia; so well known for their chivalry of characters and superior intellectual endowments. Of the first, the celebrated John Randolph, said that, he was at once the spear and the shield of the republican party, in the darkest hour of the American Government.

"May success and fame attend the exploring expedition of Captain Jones. He is really a most gallant and meritorious officer; full of chivalry and enterprise, and will do honor to his country and friends, in whatever quarter of the globe he may carry the American flag."

NAPOLEON.—The following incident has been related to us by an officer, late in his Majesty's service, who was a passenger by the *Claudine*, from Madras. It shows the reverence still entertained for Napoleon's memory by the French. "When we anchored at St. Helena, a large French man of war was lying in the roads, which had just arrived from Rio Janeiro. The whole of the officers and crew, in full dress, marched to the tomb, previous permission having been given by the Governor.—Each individual carried either flowers or painted feathers as his offering. On arriving at the tomb, the whole body prostrated themselves on the ground, uttering the most extravagant prayers to the dead hero, and on their departure hung on the iron railings their simple ornaments. The strangers' book was filled with their names, and the purport of their visit was '*Pour rendre homage*.'"

[*N. Y. Express*.]

DEATH PREFERRED TO DISHONOR.—During the Irish "reign of terror," in 1798, a circumstance occurred, which in the days of Sparta would have immortalized the heroine; it is almost unknown, no pen has ever traced the story. We pause not to inquire into the principles that influenced her—suffice it that, in common with most of her stamp, she beheld the struggle as one in which liberty warred with tyranny. Her only son had been taken in the act of rebellion, and was condemned, by martial law, to death; she followed the officer, on whose word his life depended, to the place of execution, and besought him to spare the widow's stay; she knelt, in the agony of her soul, and clasped his knees, while her eye, with the glare of a maniac, fell on her child beside him. The judge was inexorable, the transgressor must die. But, taking advantage of the occasion, he offered life to the culprit on condition of his discovering the members of

the association with which he was connected. The son wavered--the mother rose from her position of humiliation and exclaimed, "My child, my child, if you do, the heaviest curse of your mother shall fall upon you, and the milk of her bosom shall be poison in your veins." He was executed--the pride of her soul enabled her to behold it without a tear--she returned to her home--the support of her declining years had fallen--the tie that bound her to life had given away--and the evening of the day that saw her lonely and forsaken, left her at rest forever. Her heart had broke in the struggle.--*New Monthly Belle Assemblée.*

From the Paris Sun.

EPITAPH ON CHARLES X.

Requiescat in pace!

PEACE TO THE MEMORY

OF

Him who was

CHARLES THE TENTH:

Of one, who provoked his expulsion from the throne of his forefathers, by breach of faith, which the French nation visited, in just vengeance, upon him and his.

Born October 9, 1767;

Succeeding to the Throne of France,

September 16, 1824;

Abdicating July 31, 1830;

And having been formally dethroned early in August of the same year.

He died, in exile, November 6, 1836.

"De mortuis nil nisi bonum."

We warred not with the man when living; we warred not with him dead.

His errors were induced by the evil education of a weak mind; and dearly has he atoned for them.

His virtues were his own; for malevolence itself has not breathed a whisper in prejudice of his private character.

And when his offences as a king shall be remembered, as they must, and should be, let it not be forgotten that he was but man--that he was not the only king who has been the passive instrument of designing ministers, that his was not the only crowned head which has obtained its knowledge from polluted sources; and that others, like him, have been forbid to think, yet made to act; then will his fall from his high estate and his death in a foreign land, be viewed with pity, and even his political crimes be regarded

"More in sorrow than in anger."

REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE.

The U. S. cutter Jackson, which left Annapolis roads for the capes and a cruise, has particular instructions from the Treasury Department to relieve vessels in distress.

The cutter Campbell, Lieutenant Commandant Cost, arrived at New Orleans, on the —.

ON BOARD NEWS BOAT T. H. SMITH,
Off Sandy Hook, Jan. 20.

At 4 P. M., wind light from S. W. and thick; boarded the U. S. revenue cutter Alert, Capt. N. Bicker, now cruising as a supply vessel; she was making for quarantine, in order to get medical assistance for George W. Fry, a native of Hanover, who fell from the foretopmast cross trees and broke his arm, so that the bones protruded, and was otherwise injured, which induced Capt. B., from motives of humanity, to put up a signal for a steamboat, if possible, to save the man's life. We offered to row

the man up to town in our boat, which was politely declined, for fear he would take cold; they could not obtain a steamboat.

The cutter has been cruising for some time as supply vessel, with about half a complement of men, and only the following officers: Nicholas Bicker, commander; Charles A. Newton, 2d Lieutenant; the others being sick. In fact, it is impossible to get good able-bodied seamen in the port of New York, at this time. Higher wages should be given, thereby encouraging Americans to try the "deep, deep sea."--*New York Express.*

WRECKS ON THE COAST, AND REVENUE CUTTERS.—

The collector of the port of New York on Wednesday received instructions from the Treasury Department to fit out the two revenue cutters on that station, with provisions, stores, &c., for the purpose of cruising off the Hook, and relieving inward-bound vessels. In accordance with these instructions, we understand that the cutters Alert, Captain Bicker, and Rush, Captain Polk, will be supplied with necessary stores, &c., and sail forthwith.--*Pennsylvanian.*

We understand that the instructions referred to have been sent to all the collectors having charge of cutters north of Norfolk. The following is a copy of the circular letter addressed to them upon this subject, so interesting to the commercial public.--*Globe.*

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Jan. 9, 1837.

SIR: In the present inclement season, it is thought proper to combine, with the ordinary duties of the cutters, that of assisting vessels found on the coast in distress, and of administering to the wants of their crews. For this purpose, I have to request that you will direct the commanding officer of the revenue cutter —, to prepare for an immediate cruise. To enable him to fulfil the duties expected of him, you will cause him to be furnished, without delay, with an addition to his crew, if necessary, and such quantities of provision, water, wood, and all necessary supplies, as can be conveniently stowed in the vessel, and direct him to cruise —, keeping as close to the main land as may be consistent with the safety of the vessel. You will direct him not to return to port, unless forced to do so from stress of weather or want of supplies. You will instruct him to speak all vessels approaching the coast which he may fall in with, and to afford to those which may require aid or relief such assistance as may be adapted to their condition and necessities, and as it may be in his power to render.

You will observe that all supplies furnished under this authority are duly accounted for, and direct the commander of the cutter to charge such as he may deliver to vessels requiring them, at the cost value, taking the bills of their masters for the amount upon the owners or consignees. These bills will be placed in your hands for collection, and when paid, introduced into your accounts as a deduction from the current disbursements for the support of the cutter. I will thank you to hasten the departure of the cutter on this service, and to advise me of the time of her sailing. Should circumstances oblige her to return within a less period than a fortnight, you will promptly despatch her on a second cruise with similar objects, and will take care that she is kept employed on this duty as constantly as the safety of the cutter will permit.

I am, very respectfully, your most obedient,
LEVI WOODBURY,
Secretary of the Treasury.

To the Collector of the Customs at —.

REVENUE CUTTER GALLATIN.—We learn that this vessel, commanded by Captain Joseph Gold, has been ordered to fit out for a cruise off the capes of the Delaware, for the purpose of supplying vessels in distress with men, provisions, &c. This will be the means of relieving many a distressed crew, at this inclement season of the year, and there is no vessel better calculated, nor revenue officers in the service better qualified, by seamanlike and gentlemanly habits, than those on board the Gallatin, for such an arduous task.—*Delawarean.*

From the Portland Argus.

PORTLAND HARBOR, Jan. 7, 1837.

DEAR SIR: Before I leave your vessel, permit me to express to you, and the officers and seamen under your command, my grateful acknowledgments for the prompt and efficient services you and they rendered in hastening to my assistance, and taking myself, officers, and crew, from the brig, after I was cast away and bilged in Casco bay on the 5th inst. The kind attention displayed by yourself and officers towards us since our disaster, will always be feelingly remembered, and the exertions you have used in saving every thing that could be saved from the wreck, merit the hearty thanks of all concerned.

Your much obliged and humble servant,

SILVANUS PRINCE,

Late master of brig Galen, of Portland.

Capt. EZEKIEL JONES, *U. S. cutter Meris.*

That militia, as a force in the field, are the most expensive in money, most wasteful of human life, and most inefficient, is to us a *proved* proposition. We are glad to find in the annexed extract from the Ontario Repository, opinions, on this subject, so nearly germane to our own.—*N. Y. Amer.*

From the Ontario Repository and Freeman.

THE SERVICE IN FLORIDA.—In another column will be found some interesting passages relating to the nature of the military service in Florida.

Every thing connected with the military service of the country, from the Revolution down to the present day, and especially our Indian wars, seems to us to *demonstrate*, beyond all pretence of denial or doubt, that *true economy* and *true humanity*, the interest and honor of the Government, as well as the *safety, comfort, and happiness of the people*, all combine to recommend an *increase of the regular force* of the country.

The passages to which we refer, and all that has been communicated respecting the Seminole war, through any channel, official or private, speak a language on this subject, which, emphatic as it is, does but coincide with the whole experience of the country. Every where, on all occasions, the regular troops have been a *far more economical force* than the militia, and they have *suffered far less* from the various unforeseen incidents and hardships of a campaign.

The objections, in our mind, to the employment of militia for the usual emergencies of military service, arise from considerations of humanity and economy. Our countrymen are brave enough, as all our history shows, and our militia have been ready enough both to fight and to suffer. The difficulty with them is the want of those habits of subordination, implicit obedience, and *perfect method*, which none but *regular troops* can acquire, and which are more important for efficiency, in the duties of a camp, in the labors of a campaign, in *preserving comfort, health, and moral force*, and in transferring force from one point to another, than they are in the comparatively simple movements of the

battle-field, and in fighting. "War," says Johnson, in his "Falkland Islands," an admirable political pamphlet, written some seventy years ago—"war has means of destruction more formidable than the cannon and the sword. Of the thousands and tens of thousands that perished in our late contests with France and Spain, a very small part ever felt the stroke of an enemy; the rest languished in tents and ships, amidst damps and putrefaction; pale, spiritless, and helpless; gasping and groaning; unpitied by men made obdurate by long continuance of hopeless misery; and were at last whelmed in pits, or heaved into the ocean, without notice and without remembrance." Think of the misery, the waste of life, and the inroads from such causes, in Florida! It is only regular discipline, and the care, and circumspection, and system, which result from it, that can afford any reasonable safeguard against disease, as well as hostile arms.

The Portsmouth (N. H.) papers announce the death of THOMAS HARVEY, a revolutionary pensioner, at the age of eighty-five. When LAFAYETTE visited that place, in 1824, an interesting scene occurred in the hall of audience. Harvey was introduced to the General as a soldier under whom he had fought. "Do you recollect, Marquis, (said Harvey,) who bore you on his back, after being wounded at the battle of Brandywine, to the surgeon's quarters?" "He was called Tom Harvey," said the excellent Lafayette. What took place thereafter, if we know, it is not proper to relate.

Extract of a letter from an officer on board the U. S. ship Peacock.

SAN BLAS, MEXICO, Nov, 20, 1836.

We left the Sandwich Islands the 8th of October; arrived at Monterey, Upper California, in fifteen days; remained there five days, and arrived at Mazatlan on the 12th of November. We have been here three days, and sail to-morrow for Callao and Valparaiso. The officers and crew of the Peacock and Enterprise are all well, except purser Waldron, who has left the ship on a sick ticket with the East India dysentery, and has been taken to the residence of Mr. Kennedy, sixty miles in the interior of Mexico. The Enterprise will follow us in a few days.—*New York American.*

LIBERAL CONDUCT.—The New Orleans Bulletin of the 11th, speaking of the return of the Tennessee volunteers, relates the following praiseworthy conduct on the part of the councils of that city:

"We understand that the general council of the city, at their session on Saturday last, unanimously voted an appropriation of TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS, to be expended for the use of the Tennessee volunteers who have recently returned from Florida, after an arduous but glorious campaign. This generous act was no doubt promoted by the expectation that the troops immediately on their arrival, and before they were paid off, would need money for the purchase of clothing, &c. But we have learned that this liberal offer will be declined on the part of the volunteers, not, however, because they are not fully sensible of the munificence of the act, but being men of character at home, they were able to purchase what they wanted without difficulty."

MORE TROOPS FOR FLORIDA.—The Mobile Mercantile Advertiser of the 6th instant, says: "A detachment of troops, consisting of 220 men, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Arrington, left this place this morning, in three transports, for Tampa Bay.—*Savannah Georgian*, 16th inst.

WASHINGTON CITY,

THURSDAY,.....JANUARY 26, 1837.

ARRIVALS AT WASHINGTON.

Jan. 18.—Capt. C. Graham, 3d artillery, Fuller's; Capt. A. Canfield, topographical engineers, Mrs. Ulrick's; Lieut. J. E. Johnston, 4th artillery, do.; Lieut. J. W. McCrabb, 4th infantry, Gadsby's; Lieut. A. M. Mitchell, do. do.

Jan. 20.—Lieut. T. H. Holmes, 7th infantry, Gadsby's.

Jan. 23.—Lieut. G. J. Rains, 7th infantry, Brown's. Capt. E. S. Winder, 2d dragoons, Polk's; Capt. J. P. Simonton, 1st dragoons, Mrs. McPherson's; Capt. G. S. Drane, 2d artillery, Gadsby's.

LETTERS ADVERTISED.

PENSACOLA, JANUARY 1, 1837.

NAVY.	
W. H. Adams 2	P. Mid. D. McDougall 2
E. C. Bowers 3	M. Smith
H. French	C. S. Ridgely 3
B. F. B. Hunter	Mid. Henry Skipwith 2
Lieut. N. M. Howison	E. J. Leedom 2
Lieut. W. B. Lyne	<i>U. S. ship Boston.</i>
Dr. D. C. McLeod	Capt. Bladen Dulany 4
Dr. George W. Peete	Lieut. F. A. Deas 6
J. W. E. Reid	Lieut. Neil M. Howison 3
Washington Reid	Dr. Wm. Johnson 3
John Rutledge	H. N. Glentworth 4
Capt. L. Rousseau	Peyton A. Southall 2
Com. C. Stewart	P. Mid. James Anderson 6
Lieut. W. Smith	Mid. James D. Johnson 3
<i>U. S. ship Warren.</i>	Mid. John C. Howell 3
Lieut. S. F. Dupont	Mid. R. L. Love
Lieut. C. H. McBlair	Mid. John G. Anthony
Andrew J. Watson	James F. Armstrong
Dr. J. F. Brooke	Mid. Lewis M. Wilkins
Mid. B. F. B. Hunter	John Rutledge
W. S. Swann 2	John W. Getty 3
Dr. S. Sharp 2	G. Gansevoort
<i>U. S. ship Na'chez.</i>	
Lieut. E. Peck	
Purser S. Ramsey 7	
Dr. J. R. Chandler 3	

NAVY.

ORDERS.

Jan. 18.—Midshipmen H. H. Lewis, J. Mooney, and R. S. Trapier, naval school, Norfolk; Passed Assistant Surgeon W. J. Powell, detached from navy yard, Boston.

Jan. 19.—Lieut. J. Crowninshield, detached from the command of schooner Pilot; Midshipman J. H. Brown, West India squadron.

Jan. 20.—Assistant Surgeon D. S. Green, naval asylum, Philadelphia.

Jan. 21.—Passed Midshipman J. C. Garter, rendezvous, New York; Midshipman S. R. Knox, naval school, New York.

Jan. 24.—Midshipman W. R. Postell, naval school, Norfolk.

VESSELS REPORTED.

Ship Natchez, Capt. Mervine, off Brassos, St. Iago, on the 2d instant.

PENSACOLA, Jan. 7.—The U. S. sloop of war St. Louis, whose arrival we noticed in our last, left

Tampa Bay on the 31st ult. The Concord, bearing the flag of Com. Dallas, was at Tampa Bay; also, revenue cutters Dexter and Jefferson, all well. The St. Louis has been absent from Pensacola three months. The following is a list of the officers attached to the St. Louis:

Thomas Paine, Esq., commander; Lieutenants—J. H. Ward, J. K. Mitchell, J. F. Schenck; Surgeon—D. S. Edwards; Assistant Surgeon—G. W. Evans; Sailingmaster—J. M. Gardner; Passed Midshipman—G. R. Gray, Captain's Clerk—W. P. Moran; Midshipmen—J. A. Doyle, W. H. Adams, W. R. McKinney, McKean Buchanan, jr., acting do.; Acting Boatwain—J. Mersey; Gunner—C. Wall; Sailmaker—J. Burdine; Purser's Clerk—M. W. Aylwin.—*Gazette.*

NORFOLK, Jan. 20.—The barques Pioneer, Lieutenant Commandant Tattnell, and Consort, Lieutenant Commandant Glynn, of the South Sea exploring expedition, have arrived, the former on Tuesday night, the latter on Wednesday. These vessels sailed together from Boston for this port, on the 30th December, but on the 3d day out were separated in a heavy gale of wind, and experienced a succession of severe weather, till their arrival off our capes. All the vessels of the expedition are now here; the storeship Relief, barques Pioneer and Consort, and schooner Pilot, at the anchorage off the naval hospital; and the frigate Macedonian at the navy yard at Gosport, in the progress of equipment.

Officers of the Pioneer.—Lieutenant Commandant—Josiah Tattnell; Lieutenant—Henry W. Morris; Passed Assistant Surgeon—William Whelan; Passed Midshipmen—A. L. Case, B. M. Dove; Midshipman—N. Barnes, junior; Captain's Clerk—Charles Francis.

Officers of the Consort.—Lieutenant Commandant—James Glynn; Acting First Lieutenant—M. G. L. Claiborne; Acting Second Lieutenant, Sailingmaster—George F. Emmons; Acting Third Lieutenant—J. B. Dale; Acting Fourth Lieutenant—E. J. Shubrick; Acting Surgeon—Ed. Gilchrist.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS,

IN RELATION TO THE ARMY, NAVY, &C.

IN SENATE.

MONDAY, Jan. 2, 1837.

A message was received from the President of the United States, by Mr. Andrew Jackson, Jr. his Secretary, transmitting a communication from the Secretary of War, with certain papers from the War Department, to complete the annual report of that Department.

The CHAIR announced a communication from the Navy Department, transmitting a statement of the expenditures made under the contingent appropriations for that Department, made in compliance with the act of Congress of the 9th of May, 1836.

Mr. CLAY presented the petition of Colonel Anthony Gale; which was referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. KING, of Alabama, presented the petition of the Mayor and Aldermen of the city of Mobile, praying that a sum of money advanced by them for equipping certain volunteers, for the service of the United States in the late Creek war, may be refunded to them: referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. HENDRICKS, from the Committee on Roads and Canals, reported the following bills, which were severally read and ordered to a second reading:

A bill to authorize the Ohio Railroad Company to locate a road through the public lands;

A bill making appropriations for the completion of the improvement of certain rivers and roads in Florida; and

A bill making appropriation for the completion of certain military roads in Florida.

Mr. RIVES, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported without amendment the bill for the relief of certain officers of the United States sloop of war Boston.

TUESDAY, Jan. 3.

Mr. RIVES presented the memorial of J. H. Hall, praying to be compensated for his improvements in the manufacture of fire-arms: referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. SOUTHWARD, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which had been referred the petition of Irvine Shubrick, reported a bill for his relief; which was read, and ordered to a second reading.

Mr. CRITTENDEN, from the Committee on Claims, to which had been referred the memorial of the honorable John Forsyth, praying for compensation for property lost in consequence of the carelessness of the United States troops during the late Creek war, made an unfavorable report thereon, and the committee was discharged from the further consideration thereof.

Mr. BENTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred the following bills, reported the same, severally, without amendment, viz:

A bill to establish a foundry in the west and one in the southwest, and certain arsenals;

A bill to provide for the collection of materials and the purchase of sites for building certain fortifications;

A bill for the relief of the heirs of General William Eaton; and

A bill to fix the compensation of the senior clerk employed in the Adjutant General's office.

Mr. KING, of Alabama, in pursuance of notice given, asked and obtained leave and introduced a bill to encourage the employment of boys in the vessels of the United States; which was twice read and referred.

The bill making appropriations for the suppression of Indian hostilities was read a third time and passed.

FRIDAY, Jan. 6.

Mr. RIVES presented the petition of Gatano Carusi, praying compensation for services rendered, and losses sustained under a contract with certain officers of the United States navy; referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. TALLMADGE, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, made an unfavorable report on the petition of Frederick Boyer, and the committee was discharged from the further consideration thereof.

Mr. NICHOLAS, from the same committee; to which had been referred the petition of Commodore Isaac Hull, reported a bill for his relief; which was read, and ordered to second reading.

Mr. CRITTENDEN, on leave, introduced a bill for the relief of the widows and orphans of the officers and seamen of the United States schooner Wild Cat; which was twice read, and referred.

MONDAY, Jan. 9.

The CHAIR presented a communication from the War Department, transmitting a report from the Second Auditor, showing the expenditures of the contingent fund of the military establishment,

made in compliance with the provisions of the fifth section of the act of March, 1809.

Mr. KNIGHT presented the petition of sundry merchants of Newport, Rhode Island, praying for an appropriation for placing buoys in the harbor of that port; referred to the Committee on Commerce.

On motion of Mr. RIVES, the petition and papers of Captain Warrington, on the files of the last session, were again referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. TALLMADGE presented the petition of sundry citizens residing on the river Hudson, praying that an appropriation may be made for improving the channel of said river, and for placing buoys on the shoals of the same; referred to the Committee on Commerce.

The CHAIR communicated the memorial of the Legislature of the State of Tennessee, praying compensation for certain volunteers who served in the late Indian war; and,

On motion of Mr. GRUNDY, it was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The following resolutions were offered, to lie on the table one day:

By Mr. TALLMADGE:

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of legislating on the subject of pilots on the sea coast, with power to report by bill or otherwise.

By Mr. MORRIS:

Resolved, That the Committee on Roads and Canals inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation for the construction of a bridge over the Ohio river, from the point where the Cumberland road intersects the river, opposite the city of Wheeling, in the State of Virginia.

By Mr. LINN:

Resolved, That the Committee on Indian Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation for holding a treaty with the Chippewa Indians, in Wisconsin Territory, for the purchase of their lands.

By Mr. EWING, of Illinois:

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law for the creation of ports of entry at the towns of Alton and Chicago, in the State of Illinois.

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a marine hospital at Caledonia, in the State of Illinois.

Mr. BENTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred the bill to increase the army of the United States, reported the same without amendment.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 11.

Mr. PRESTON presented the petition of sundry citizens of Charleston, South Carolina, setting forth the necessity of establishing a naval depot and navy yard at the South, and recommending the situation of Charleston as peculiarly suited to that purpose; read, and referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. BENTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which had been referred the memorial of the corporate authorities of the town of Mobile, Alabama, praying to be remunerated for advances made by them for the equipment of two companies of volunteers, who served in the late Indian wars, reported a bill making an appropriation for that object; which was read, and ordered to a second reading.

Mr. DAVIS submitted the following resolution, which lies on the table one day:

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be directed to inquire into the expediency of making some provision for the nautical education of seamen.

The bill from the House to provide payment for horses and other property lost and destroyed in the military service of the United States was read a third time and passed.

THURSDAY, JAN. 12,

Mr. NICHOLAS presented the petition of Hezekiah L. Thistle; which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. BENTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, to which the memorial on the subject had been referred, reported a bill providing payment for a regiment of Vermont militia who served at the battle of Plattsburg.

Mr. PRESTON submitted the following resolution, which lies on the table one day:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of causing an examination to be made, by a board of officers of rank and experience, of the improvements in fire-arms made by Hall, Cochran, Colt, and the Baron Hacket, and that the general results be presented in tabular statements, showing the advantages of each in all important military points of view, and especially as to

1. The celerity of fire;
2. The extent of recoil;
3. The efficiency of the fire;
4. The inconvenience from heated barrels in rapid firing;
5. The capacity of being used as a rifle;
6. The simplicity and cheapness of construction;
7. Durability;
8. Saving of ammunition and appendages;
9. The number of charges which may be carried by an infantry soldier;
10. The advantages when used against a charge of cavalry; and
11. The advantages when used by cavalry.

Mr. PRESTON offered the following resolution, which lies on the table one day for consideration:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Militia be instructed to inquire into the expediency of having printed, at the expense of the United States, an edition of Gen. Macomb's book on tactics, &c., sufficient for the supply of each commissioned militia officer in the United States with a copy.

Mr. LINN submitted the following resolution, which lies on the table one day for consideration:

Resolved, That the Committee on Roads and Canals be instructed to inquire into the expediency of making an appropriation for the completion of the military road from Fort Crawford, by Fort Winnebago, to Fort Howard, at Green Bay.

Mr. CRITTENDEN offered the following resolution, which was considered and adopted:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the propriety of making compensation to the regiment of Kentucky militia that, during the last summer, were duly called for, and required to engage in the military service of the United States; and after being, at considerable expense, equipped and prepared for said service, were discharged, by order of the President of the United States, before they had marched for Camp Sabine, the point of their destination.

The resolutions lying on the table were considered and adopted.

FRIDAY, JAN. 13,

Mr. TALLMADGE, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to which had been referred the petition of

Commodore Charles Ridgely, reported a bill for his relief; which was read, and ordered to a second reading.

Mr. CRITTENDEN submitted the following resolution, which lies on the table one day:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to communicate to the Senate any report or letter of explanation of the military operations of the army in Florida, under the command of the Governor of that Territory, made by him to that Department since the report of the Secretary which accompanied the President's message.

The resolution submitted yesterday by Mr. PRESTON, directing examinations to be made by a board of officers to test the value of the improvements made in fire-arms by Hall, Cochran, and others, was considered and adopted.

SATURDAY, JAN. 14,

Mr. TALLMADGE presented a memorial from a number of citizens of Newburg, praying that a survey be made of the Hudson river up to the head of tide water, for the erection of buoys and beacons, &c.

MONDAY, JAN. 16, 1837.

Mr. WALL offered the following resolution, which lies on the table one day for consideration:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be requested to communicate to the Senate "the survey of Crow shoal, in the Delaware, to ascertain the practicability of erecting a breakwater or stone pier," made in pursuance of the law of the last session, and the report of the engineer, and other papers relating to the same.

Mr. PRESTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a resolution authorizing the Secretary of War to make examination into the improvements in fire-arms made by Cochran and others, in accordance with the resolution offered by Mr. P. a few days ago.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 18.

Mr. CRITTENDEN offered the following resolution, which was considered and adopted:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to communicate to the Senate, in addition to the report or letter of explanation of Gov. Call, concerning the military operations in Florida, required by resolution of the 14th inst., the communication calling for that report, and any other communication from or to the said Governor on the subject thereof.

Mr. KING, of Georgia, offered the following resolution, which lies on the table one day for consideration:

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be requested to transmit to the Senate copies of all correspondence in his Department, not heretofore communicated, or so much thereof as may be communicated without injury to the public interest, showing the present relations between the United States and Texas.

THURSDAY, JAN. 19.

TEXAS.

A message was received from the President of the United States, through ANDREW JACKSON, JR., his private secretary, in compliance with the resolution of the Senate, dated the 16th instant, transmitting a copy and a translation of a letter addressed to him on the 4th of July last, by the President of the Mexican Republic, and a copy of his reply to the same on the 4th of September.

The message and documents were laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

The CHAIR announced a communication from the Navy Department, transmitting a statement of the contracts entered into by the Navy Commissioners for the last year.

Mr. BUCHANAN presented the petition of Horatio N. Crabb, a lieutenant in the marine corps, praying for certain allowances of pay, refused him by the accounting officers: referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. PRESTON, on leave, introduced a joint resolution, authorizing the Secretary of War to apply the appropriation made last session for repairing the sea wall at St. Augustine, to the reconstruction of the same; which was twice read and referred.

The following bills were severally read the second time, and considered as in Committee of the Whole, and ordered to a third reading:

The bill for the relief of certain officers of the United States sloop of war Boston.

The bill for the relief of Irvine Shubrick.

The bill for the relief of the heirs of General William Eaton.

The bill to increase the compensation of the principal clerk employed in the Adjutant General's office.

FRIDAY, Jan. 20.

The CHAIR communicated a report from the War Department, in compliance with a resolution of the Senate on the subject of the surveys of Owl's Head harbor, in the State of Maine; which, on motion of Mr. BENTON, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The bill authorizing the President of the United States to furnish to each of the States an additional number of cannon for the use of the militia, was read, and ordered to a second reading.

The following bills were severally read the third time, and passed:

The bill for the relief of certain officers of the United States sloop of war Boston.

The act to fix the compensation of the senior clerk employed in the Adjutant and Inspector General's office.

The bill for the relief of Irvine Shubrick.

The bill for the relief of Charles G. Hunter.

The bill for the relief of the heirs of General William Eaton.

SATURDAY, Jan. 21.

Mr. KING, of Alabama, presented the memorial of the Legislature of the State of Alabama, respecting the employment of militia in the service of the United States, setting forth that, in consequence of the privations and hardships to which he is exposed, the citizen soldier is not adequately compensated by the pay of a soldier of the regular army: referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The bill for the relief of the corporate authorities of the city of Mobile [to remunerate them for their expenses in fitting out two companies of volunteers for the late Creek war] and

The bill providing for the payment of the Vermont militia, who served at the battle of Plattsburg, were read the second time, and considered as in Committee of the Whole, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The resolution introduced by Mr. PRESTON, to authorize certain experiments to be made to test the utility of certain improvements made in fire-arms, was considered and adopted.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 4, 1837.

Mr. DAWSON submitted the following resolution, which, under the rule, will lie one day on the table:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy be requested to communicate to this House the report of the naval commission who were charged with the examination of the South Atlantic seacoast, for the most eligible site for a naval depot and navy yard.

Mr. OWENS submitted the following resolution, which, under the rule, will lie over for one day:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to furnish this House with a detailed statement of the number and names of the officers in the regular army of the United States who have resigned their commissions within the last twelve months, and the dates of said resignations; the number and names of the officers who have applied for and obtained furloughs within the same period of time, the date of said furloughs, and the reasons for granting the same; and the number and names of the officers who have refused to comply with the last general order of the President of the United States, requiring the officers of the army to join their regiments, and the reasons for such non-compliance; and any other matter, connected with this subject, that he may deem important to the public interests.

On motion of Mr. LOYALL, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of placing Samuel Ross, disabled seaman of the United States, on the navy pension roll.

On motion of Mr. MCKAY, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of prohibiting or regulating by law the practice of officers of the army being employed in the service of individuals or incorporated companies, and receiving compensation from them, during the time they hold their commissions.

FRIDAY, Jan. 6.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, in pursuance of a joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives of the 19th of April last, referring the papers of the heirs of Robert Fulton to that Department; which, on motion of Mr. WHITTLESEY, of Ohio, was referred to the Committee of Claims.

SATURDAY, Jan. 7.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of War, transmitting the report of the Second Auditor, showing the contingent expenses of the military establishment of the United States for the year 1836; which, on motion of Mr. WHITTLESEY, of Ohio, was ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

Mr. THOMPSON, of South Carolina, asked leave of the House to submit the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Militia be directed to inquire into the expediency of causing to be published, at the expense of the United States, an edition of the work on tactics, &c. of General Macomb and Major Cooper, sufficient to supply each commissioned officer in the militia of the United States with a copy.

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of causing an examination to be made, by a board of officers of rank and experience, of the improvements in fire-arms by Cochran, Hall, Colt, and Baron Hackett, exhibiting in tabular statements the advantages of each, in all important military points of view, and especially as to

1. Celerity of fire.
2. Efficiency of fire.
3. Extent of the recoil.

4. Inconvenience from heated barrel in rapid firing.
 5. Cheapness and simplicity of construction.
 6. Durability.
 7. Saving of ammunition and appendages.
 8. The number of charges which may be carried by an infantry soldier.
 9. Advantages when used against a charge of cavalry.
 10. Advantages when used by cavalry.
- Objection being made,
Mr. THOMPSON moved a suspension of the rules, for the purpose of submitting said resolution; which motion was disagreed to.

TUESDAY, JAN. 10.

ARSENAL AT PHILADELPHIA.

Mr. OWENS, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported the following resolution; which was concurred in:

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of disposing of the Passunk arsenal, near the city of Philadelphia, the property of the United States.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of War, transmitting a report from the Topographical Bureau, for the improvement of the mouth of Black river, Jefferson county, New York; which, on motion of Mr. WARDWELL, was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, and ordered to be printed.

THURSDAY, JAN. 12.

NEW YORK HARBOR.

Mr. McKEON, on leave, submitted the following resolution, which was agreed to.

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be directed to inquire into the expediency of placing light-boats on Flynn's Knoll and the Roamer, near Sandy Hook; and also into the expediency of publishing the charts now in the office of the superintendent of the coast survey.

On motion of Mr. E. WHITTLESEY, the amendment of the Senate to the bill from the House, "to provide for the payment of horses and other property lost or destroyed in the service of the United States," was taken up, and referred to the Committee of Claims.

The SPEAKER, on leave, presented a communication from the Executive of Tennessee, in relation to the Tennessee volunteers; which, on motion of Mr. WHITTLESEY, was referred to the Committee of Claims.

TUESDAY, JAN. 17.

Mr. SUTHERLAND, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill making appropriations for erecting light-houses, light-boats, and buoys, and making surveys for the year 1837: read twice, and committed to a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

Mr. HOWARD, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported a bill for the relief of Charles G. Ridgely: read twice, and committed.

Mr. HOWARD, from the same committee, reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to lay before this House, if not incompatible with the public interest, any information in his possession, showing the condition of the political relations between the United States and Mexico; and also any further information that he may have received on the condition of Texas.

On motion of Mr. H. the resolution (under the rule,

being required to lie over one day for consideration) was taken up, then considered, and concurred in.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 18.

On motion of Mr. BOYD,

Resolved, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of causing an examination to be made, by a board of officers of rank and experience, of the improvements in fire-arms by Cochran, Hall, Colt, and Baron Hacket, and that the general results be presented in tabular statements, exhibiting the advantages of each in all important military points of view, and especially as to

1. The celerity of fire;
2. The extent of recoil;
3. The efficiency of the fire;
4. The inconvenience from heated barrels in rapid firing;
5. The capacity of being used as a rifle;
6. The simplicity and cheapness of construction;
7. Durability;
8. Saving of ammunition and appendages;
9. The number of charges which may be carried by an infantry soldier;
10. The advantages when used against a charge of cavalry; and
11. The advantages when used by cavalry.

The bill to authorize the President of the United States to furnish certain ordnance stores to the several States was then taken up, read a third time, and passed.

The joint resolution granting a pension to Mrs. Decatur was also taken up, read twice, and, on motion of Mr. THOMAS, postponed until to-morrow.

The bill to continue in force for a limited time "An act authorizing certain soldiers in the late war to surrender the bounty lands drawn by them, and to locate others in lieu thereof," was taken up, and, on motion of Mr. KENNON, referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

The "bill to change the title of certain officers of the navy," was taken up, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to-morrow.

The CHAIR also presented from the Secretary of the Treasury a report of the contracts for light-houses, light-boats, &c. for the year 1836; which, on motion of Mr. SUTHERLAND, was laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

THURSDAY, JAN. 19.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Navy, covering a statement of the contracts made by the commissioners of the navy during the year 1836; which, on motion of Mr. CAMBRELENG, was ordered to lie on the table and be printed.

FRIDAY, JAN. 20.

Mr. JARVIS, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill to regulate the pay of the officers of the United States marine corps: read twice, and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union.

SOUTH ATLANTIC COAST.

Mr. DAWSON moved a suspension of the rule for the purpose of taking up and considering the following resolution. Mr. D. explained that it was very important this resolution should be acted upon, as it referred to the provisions of a bill before the House.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Navy be requested to communicate to this House the report of the naval commission who were charged with the examination of the South Atlantic sea-coast, for

the most eligible site for a naval depot and navy yard.

The motion was not agreed to, two-thirds not voting in the affirmative.

SATURDAY, Jan. 21.

The following bills from the Senate were read twice, and referred to their appropriate standing committees:

The bill for the relief of certain officers of the United States sloop of war Boston.

The bill for the relief of Irvine Shubrick.

The bill for the relief of the heirs of General William Eaton.

The bill to increase the compensation of the principal clerk employed in the Adjutant and Inspector General's office.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

THE FLORIDA WAR.

Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.

Volusia, Dec. 1, 1836.

I wrote you from Fort Heiliman that the army would probably be put in motion early in the month of November. On the 10th, the forces, consisting of the Tennessee brigade, about 1000 strong, 200 Florida volunteers, 400 regular troops, and 700 friendly Indians, were concentrated at Fort Drane, and marched on the 11th for the Outhlacoochee river, where we arrived on the 13th. The cove of the Outhlacoochee, formed by a large curve in the river northward, and defended on the south by an impenetrable morass, had always been supposed to be the stronghold of the Indians. When the army was before it, previous to falling back upon Fort Heiliman, the river would have been passed at all hazards, but as our supply of provisions was nearly exhausted, and we had learned from the squaws captured a few days before, that the Indians had made no corn the past summer, it was deemed useless to proceed further until our supplies would enable us to pursue the enemy after we had forced him from his stronghold.—On our arrival at the Outhlacoochee, every disposition was made in the army to force a passage of the river. The officers of the Tennessee brigade claimed the right of forcing the pass, and were within a few hundred yards of the river when it was announced by a body of the friendly Indians, who had made a reconnoissance by swimming across, above and below, that the point was not defended. A body of the regular troops and friendly Indians and Florida volunteers, were, however, passed over the river, which we found swimming for horses nearly one-half the width of the river.—The cove was scoured and all the Indian huts burned. A part of the Tennessee brigade, on the same day, led on by Col. Trousdale, and accompanied by Major Barrow, aid-de-camp to Gen. Armstrong, crossed the bayou a few miles above, that had been so vigorously defended by the Indians at the time of our first attack. They found, however, from every indication, that the Indians had fled a few days before. After burning two large, and, for savages, well built towns, they returned to "camp Barrow," on the north side of the Outhlacoochee. Gen. Call immediately ordered the regular troops and a battalion of Florida volunteers, with the friendly Indians, to scour all the country around the cove and south side of the Outhlacoochee, whilst with the Tennessee brigade he directed a move up the north side of the river, to examine the Wahoo swamp and the extensive morasses between that point and the cove, for the

purpose of discovering the trail of the Indians; and, if possible, to intercept them in their escape towards the Ocklawaha swamp, bordering on the St. John's river, which it was supposed they would endeavor to reach.

On the 17th November, a party, supposed to be about 200 strong, were discovered at Ponisolkee swamp, near the head of the Wahoo. They were immediately attacked by a regiment of the Tennessee brigade, and after a sharp conflict of 20 or 30 minutes, fled, and were pursued until they escaped in a deep swamp, where it was impossible to overtake them. Our troops, after the first fire, charged directly into the swamp upon the enemy, and put them to flight. We had one killed and seven or eight wounded.

On the 18th, the Governor pursued the Indians with about 5,500 of the Tennessee brigade, with Gen. Armstrong at their head. About 2 o'clock we came up with the enemy, and found him posted in a position admirably selected for their mode of warfare—a prairie of about 60 or 80 acres in circumference, hemmed in on three sides by a forest of thick undergrowth, and one-half of the extent an impenetrable swamp. We came so quietly upon them, that a few of them were just entering the hammock, having themselves set fire to their huts in the prairie. We had no doubt that they were posted on the margin of the forest to receive us, which we soon ascertained to be so. Our men were formed in open order, about 100 yards from the hammock, and before our line was entirely complete, a shrill crack from an Indian rifle, their usual mode of commencing an attack, was heard, followed by a general discharge from the enemy. From the distance, the Indians being probably 40 or 50 yards in the hammock, only two or three of our men were wounded. They immediately returned the fire, and then charged most gallantly into the forest, routing and pursuing the enemy at every point of attack. They were supposed to be from 600 to 700 in number, their line extending for more than a mile. The Seminoles are certainly a most bold and daring race. No Indians will stand a vigorous charge by white men. But in this battle, frequently, when routed, they reappeared in a short time, in some other quarter, making repeated attempts to outflank us, and at one time, forty or fifty showing themselves in the open pine woods, directly in our rear, and but a few hundred yards distant. They fought bravely for nearly an hour, when, being charged upon in every quarter, they gave way, and were pursued until they outstripped our troops in the swamps, and were lost sight of. Nothing could be more beautiful than the prompt and vigorous charges made by our troops on every occasion, meeting, without wavering, the whoops and levelled aim of the adversary. We lost in this battle, 3 killed and 13 or 14 wounded. Twenty-one dead Indians were found on the field, and, from their known custom of carrying off their dead and wounded, many more must have perished.

The two days following were rainy and unfit for operations. On the 21st we were joined by the regular troops and friendly Indians, and again went in pursuit of the enemy. We found the Indians in the same position they occupied on the 18th, and ready to receive us, which they evinced by making a demonstration in advance of the hammock, forty or fifty showing themselves, and raising a yell of defiance. It was at this time that our troops displayed a degree of bravery, and gallant demeanor, that might be envied by veterans of any time, or any country. Detachments of the Tennessee brigade, Florida volunteers, and regular troops, were ordered

to advance in quick time, and charge the enemy, reserving their fire until they had passed into the forest. This they accomplished to the letter—not a gun was fired by our men until they were in the woods with the enemy; and, so intimidating was the effect of so gallant a charge, that three quarters of them ran off without firing a gun. From 150 to 200 Indians were at this point of attack: they were pursued through a swamp for a distance of at least two miles, to where the principal body was posted, in the rear of a deep bayou, fifty or sixty yards wide, and impassable without swimming. Here they fought us for near an hour,—as it was impossible to cross the bayou without making a bridge, a further pursuit was impracticable; a few shots were fired at a great distance, as our troops returned from the bayou. Our loss in this battle was eight killed, including four friendly Indians, and thirteen wounded. The Indians must have met with a severe loss; thirteen dead bodies were found in the hammock, and a great many were seen to fall on the opposite side of the bayou. The next day we found numerous trails leading from the swamp towards the Ocklawaha; and as our provisions were nearly out, we took up the line of march for Volusia,—this post being supplied with provisions, and being in the neighborhood of the Ocklawaha swamp. Had our supply of provisions justified longer delay, the whole of the Wahoo swamp would have been scoured, and we could have known with more certainty the point necessary to be attacked in future operations.

The difficulty in the transportation of provisions and forage, for the supply of an army in the interior of the peninsula of Florida, is an obstacle to be surmounted, in all the operations against the Indians, greater than fighting the enemy. The cove of the Ouithlacoochee is 80 miles from the nearest point of approach, either on the Gulf or Atlantic, and as the whole of that region of country is in possession of the enemy, the transportation train is liable to attack from a concentrated force at all times. An army of at least 1,500 men is necessary to guard the trains and depots, without operating otherwise against the enemy. Added to all this, the interior of the country has never before been known to any but a few persons, who have passed along the trails, which are generally upon the high lands. The cove of the Ouithlacoochee and the Wahoo swamp, and the morasses connecting and around them, are at least ninety miles in circumference. In almost every part are thick hammocks, deep ponds, and cypress swamps, the most dismal and gloomy that the imagination can conceive. This swamp on the Ocklawaha is nearly as bad as the Ouithlacoochee; and farther south the swamps are represented as being larger and more difficult of access. A small army can do nothing permanently useful in Florida. The Indians are acquainted with all the fastnesses of the swamps—driven from one, they can retire in a single night to another, and, before their trails are discovered by scouts, who have every danger and difficulty to encounter, they may be a hundred miles distant.

From every indication, the Indians have destroyed all their property to be transported. They have driven from the upper country immense herds of cattle, which it is impossible for any army to find and destroy, unless it were 50,000 strong, in marching through. They can easily be sustained by the beef, game, and esculent roots of the country, throughout time. They have shown a determined spirit not to yield; and I see no probability, unless a larger army should be sent into the field, of their subjugation. The army under the command of

Gov. Call have fought most gallantly on every occasion, when they have encountered the enemy. But the number of men under his command was not, in fact, more than sufficient to establish depots, and protect the trains required for the support of the army. The regiment of Creek volunteers I consider as an incumbrance; they have not and cannot be of any service.—The Tennessee brigade, under their gallant general, have sustained nobly, on every occasion; the high character of their State; and the regular troops, and Florida volunteers, with their officers, have acted bravely, but their numbers have not been sufficient.

To do any thing effectual, we must have at least 4,000 men in the field, to attack the enemy at several points simultaneously; otherwise we shall have a protracted war; and the much-injured citizens of Florida will have to endure all the horrors of another summer, with the enemy harassing their borders.

AN OFFICER OF THE ARMY OF FLORIDA.

From the *New Orleans True American*.
THE TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS.

Below we publish the "Farewell Address of Gen. Armstrong, to the Tennessee Volunteers," upon the eve of their discharge from the arduous service in which they have been engaged for some time past. It is written with feeling, and from all we have seen, in the published and other accounts of the conduct of this brigade while in Florida, it does not award them too much praise.

The gallant Gen. Armstrong, (who, by the by, we discover from the Nashville papers, is already spoken of as a candidate for Governor of Tennessee at the next election,) and his brave companions will, no doubt, be received by that chivalrous State with pride and enthusiasm.

HEAD QUARTERS, TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS, ?
New Orleans, Jan. 8, 1837.

FELLOW SOLDIERS:—The ties which have bound us together for some months past are about to be dissolved—the official connexion which has existed between us is drawing to a close. In a short time the officer and the soldier will alike return to the various avocations of civil life, from which they were called to repel the aggressions of a savage and wary foe; and the privations and horrors of war will be exchanged for the smiles of home and the enjoyment of quiet and comfort.—Before we separate, as it is the last time I shall address you officially, I would give you my parting benediction, and offer my sincere wishes for your future prosperity and happiness.

This day twenty-two years ago the military character of Tennessee, which had already acquired lustre from the successes of the Creek campaign, was placed upon a level with that of any of her sister States, by the part which her sons bore in one of the most brilliant achievements in our military annals. Her volunteers had manifested such promptitude when their services were needed, such cheerfulness in the performance of their duty, such determination in submitting to every privation, and such chivalry and courage in the field, that they attracted the praise and admiration of the whole country, and it was, therefore, with confidence that the Government looked to her for a ready compliance with the call which it was deemed proper to make for the suppression of the Creek and Seminole hostilities. Nor was this confidence misplaced. No sooner was the call known in our State, than hundreds were ready to respond to it. The contest was not who should stay at home, but who might be permitted to go; and the services of more than

fifteen hundred men were rejected, because the number allotted to Tennessee was already complete. The cheerfulness and alacrity with which you, the successful applicants for the honor of serving your country, then stepped forward, have marked your whole conduct during your arduous and dangerous campaign. Although, when you were informed that your services could be dispensed with in the Creek country, as the whole nation were then on their way to their western homes, it was a season of the year which is considered the most unhealthy in Florida, you readily marched to the relief of that suffering Territory. You were willing to brave sickness and death when you were told that a ruthless and savage foe had approached within twenty-five miles of her capital, and was marking his progress with burnings and murder. Accustomed to all the comforts and many of the luxuries of civilized life, you bore with cheerfulness the privations and sufferings incident to an unsettled and wilderness country, which was, too, in possession of the enemy.—Through swamps and morasses, through the densest hammocks and across wide and angry streams, you sought the enemy, and in his own fastnesses, in those fortifications which nature has raised up, and which, for the purposes of defence, cannot be easily surpassed, you gave him battle, and compelled him, after considerable loss, to seek safety in flight. When you arrived in Florida, the sluggish Ocala had been crossed by marauding parties of the enemy, and security was only found by the helpless inhabitants by leaving it in their rear as they retreated northwardly. When you left that Territory they had been driven below the far-famed Withlacoochee, and had been compelled to abandon their strong-hold which they had sworn never to leave. Dispersed, disheartened, and greatly reduced in numbers, they have fled towards the Everglades, and the country north of the Withlacoochee may be considered as being for ever freed from their presence. This much was accomplished by the various skirmishes on your first march, and by the battles of the 17th, 18th and 21st of November—the two first of which were fought by detachments from the Tennessee brigade alone, and the last by them in connexion with other troops.

There are others besides your commanding general who have testified that you have faithfully performed your duty, and rendered your country important services. The official reports and the valedictory letter of General Call, and the last orders of Gen. Jesup previous to your departure from Florida, have awarded praise to the Tennessee brigade in no measured terms. Having been successively commanders-in-chief of the army in Florida, their approbation is the best and most important test of your conduct. Take alone the evidence which they have thus given, and pass by the commendation of your own general, which a too fond partiality might produce, and your countrymen must be ready to admit that Tennessee was perfectly secure when she committed her military character to your keeping, and that the spirit which animated her sons on the plains of New Orleans still glows brightly in your bosoms.

Towards Colonel Bradford of the 1st, and Colonel Trousdale of the 2d regiment, and the gentlemen of their staffs, as well as the other officers and the men of the brigade, I have cherished the kindest feelings, and it gives me much pleasure and satisfaction to believe that those feelings are reciprocated. When men are disposed to perform their duty, the road is easy and plain before them, and that this has been the case with the Tennessee brigade is evidenced by the fact that, throughout their term of ser-

vice, no instance has occurred of a court martial having been called for the trial of an officer, and but two for the trial of privates, and their offences were so venial that they were only taken notice of from the necessity of complying with the rules and regulations of the army.

In parting with the brigade, I should not do justice to my own feelings, nor to my staff, if I did not thus publicly acknowledge the zeal and ability with which they have discharged the various duties of their different departments. To my aid-de camp, Major Barrow, my praise and thanks are due for his courage, promptitude, and energy in the field, and the ability and cheerfulness with which he has discharged the other important duties of his station. Major Upshaw, as brigade inspector, has fully met my expectations, while Dr. Dickinson, the brigade surgeon, has well sustained the high character which many years of successful practice had obtained for him. The veteran Lauderdale, who was my volunteer aid on several occasions, acted in a manner worthy a name which is not undistinguished. Maj. Hickman, quartermaster, and Captain Saunders, commissary of subsistence, to the brigade, besides displaying great zeal in their attention to their duties, have been of much service in the field.

The only cloud which rests upon the pleasing prospect of a speedy return to our homes arises from the recollection that some of those who went forth with us, buoyant with hope and expectation, are now resting beneath the arid soil of Alabama or Florida. But this is the common fatality of war; and the only consolation that we can offer to their sorrowing relatives and friends will be, that they died for their country, and that we gave them a soldier's burial, and dropped to their memory a soldier's tear.

From the kindness and diligence of the gentlemen who have been appointed to pay, muster, and discharge you, I have but little doubt that you will be enabled to depart for your homes in a few days. Every means in my power shall be used to facilitate this event. That you may reach them in safety, and that you may find the faces of your wives, children, and friends, which were dimmed by sorrow and anxiety at your departure, glowing with health, and lighted up with joy at your return, is my most sincere and ardent prayer.

Most affectionately, I bid each and all of you farewell!

ROBERT ARMSTRONG,
Brigadier General, Tennessee Volunteers.

DEATHS.

In Biddeford, Maine, Mr. RUFUS BRIDGES, 27, in consequence of an injury received by a fall on board the U. S. ship Boston, while on duty at Charlestown, having been appointed sailmaker in the U. S. service last spring.

On the 25th July last, on board the U. S. ship Peacock, in the Pacific ocean, Mr. J. DICKENSON MENDENHALL, (son of Capt. Thomas Mendenhall,) acting purser U. S. navy, in the 34th year of his age. He was attacked with dysentery in the month of April, at Bankok, (Siam,) and continued ill until the arrival of the squadron at Macao. Through the very particular attention of Dr. Rushenberger, he was enabled to sail on the 23d June, in a convalescent state; but a change from land to sea air brought on a relapse, and a few days terminated his life.

Recently, at his late residence in Clark county, Alabama, Colonel SAMUEL J. ALSTON, aged 75.